

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for October 19, 2009

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled October 19, 2009 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Solicitor Dan Lovette, Manager Richard Wargo, Sec. /Tres. Judith A. Czyrnik, Clerk-Amanda Claycomb, President Richard Rodgers, Council Members; Mr. Ed Danyluk, Mr. Herb Ewald, Mr. William Kory, Mr. Kevin Pile, Mr. Tom Strittmatter and Mr. William Krupa, Mayor Gerry Sloat, West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas

Absent: Fire Chief Mike Leckey, Engineer Dave Duray, excused

Visitors: Scott & Brenda Yates, 331 Orchard St., subdivision plan; Brian Kelly, 340 Strayer St., subdivision plan engineer; Mr. John Lovette, 305 Leon St., observing.

Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried. At this time President Rodgers called upon visitors. Mr. Wargo reported a Planning Commission Meeting was held on October 12, 2009 to discuss a subdivision application submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Scott Yates for 102 Gardner Street. Mr. Wargo noted the Planning Commission along with Mr. Wargo approved the request. Mr. Kelly requested Council sign off on charging the sewer maintenance fee on the property as there is a no-building declaration on that piece of property. A motion was made by Mr. Kory to approve the subdivision application for 102 Gardner Street. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Havas reported the new 2009 Ford Explorer has been received. Chief Havas noted new police software has been installed in the Department's computers.

Fire Company Report

Chief Leckey absent. The Fire Company and the Hilltop Ambulance reports were received and are on file.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Wargo reported five zoning permits issued and two negative sewer compliance tests. Mr. Wargo noted work done at 537 Bluff Street in 2008 did not receive a zoning permit. Mr. Wargo stated faulty work was done and is being taken care of.

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Engineer's Report

Mr. Duray excused from meeting. Mr. Wargo stated Corrective Action Plan activities are on schedule except for dye testing.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald reported leaf pick-up has begun and dye testing is continuing.

B. Personnel: Nothing to report.

C. Police Committee: Mayor Sloat reported the police budget would be prepared at the October 20, 2009 meeting.

D. Insurance Committee: Nothing to report.

E. Budget Committee: Mr. Pile reviewed a few line items. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the 2010 tentative budget for advertising. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0).

F. Shade Tree Report: Mr. Krupa reported information for the TreeVitalize grant has been re-sent noting when monies are received it will cover work that has previously been done for the grant. Mr. Krupa stated the next Shade Tree Committee meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2009 to update committee members. Mr. Krupa noted recent storm damage has been cleaned up.

G. Recreation Committee: Mr. Kory noted the next meeting would be held October 28, 2009. Mr. Kory stated repairs need made to the roof at The Ridge.

H. Properties Committee: Mr. Wargo noted the Laurel Highlands Correctional Institution workers will start October 20, 2009 painting fences and the inside and outside of the Borough Building.

I. COG Report: Mr. Krupa stated the next meeting will be December 7, 2009. Mr. Krupa noted COG is planning on setting up training for Zoning Officials.

J. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported an archaeological study is required noting the Water Authority will pay half and Westmoreland County will pay half. Mr. Pile stated the recent twenty-five percent (25%) rate increase has increased revenue by \$440,000. Mr. Pile stated Westmoreland County is looking into reducing costs on the pipeline.

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K. Open Records: No open records requests received.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report

Ms. Czyrnik noted property located at 12 Harding Street has delinquent taxes and garbage/sewer maintenance fees. Solicitor Lovette stated he will have information regarding possible solutions at the November Council Meeting. Solicitor Lovette called for an executive meeting regarding legal items at 7:52 p.m. Executive session ended and Council resumed its meeting at 8:05 p.m. Solicitor Lovette stated he has been in contact with Mr. Jay Molluso and Mr. Phillip Binotto, Jr. regarding issues with Central Tax Bureau and a check has been received in the amount of \$100,838.91 for tax monies from 2003 – 2008. Solicitor Lovette noted Mr. Binotto requested an additional thirty days to determine whether additional funds are owed to the Borough of Southmont. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Mr. Wargo to research and invest the \$100,838.91 from Central Tax Bureau into a six month CD. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0). A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve Southmont Borough Ordinance No. 478 which adopts the new International Property Maintenance Code 2009, formerly BOCA. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve Southmont Borough Ordinance No. 479 which authorizes Johnstown Redevelopment Authority to establish rule for operation and maintenance of regional sewage collection and treatment system. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to authorize Solicitor Lovette to prepare an Ordinance to increase sewer maintenance fees to \$96.00 per year by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0). A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve advertisement of the Ordinance after Solicitor Lovette has prepared one. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried.

Manager's Report

Mr. Wargo stated the reimbursement for LED lights installed at the Menoher Blvd. and Luzerne St. light in the amount of \$985.00 was received. Mr. Wargo reported an earned income tax meeting was held on October 15, 2009 at the Cambria County Court House in regards to committee members and by-laws. Mr. Wargo stated the 2004 dump truck has been transferred to Windber Borough.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Kory to approve the September 2009 treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Czyrnik reported allocation for 2009 Municipal Pension State Aid was received in the amount of

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\$7,111.91. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Council's attendance to the Cambria County Boroughs Association meeting on October 27, 2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

Tax Collector's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Kory to note the receipt of the September tax collector's report in the amount of \$1,255.82. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the bills for September 2009 and October 2009 in the amount of \$149,752.45. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0).

New Business

Mr. Rodgers called for an executive session regarding personnel items at 8:38 p.m. Executive session ended and Council resumed its meeting at 8:45 p.m. Council discussed pay raises for non-uniform employees with increases attached to base pay and an incentive beginning January 1, 2010 as follows: Mr. Jan Bosley, \$725.00 base pay increase and \$500.00 incentive; Ms. Amanda Claycomb, \$725.00 base pay increase and \$300.00 incentive. Ms. Judith Czynnik, \$360.00 base pay increase and \$200.00 incentive. Mr. Rodgers noted union employees will receive a \$0.35 per hour pay increase as stated in the union contract. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the base pay increases and incentives of non-uniform employees. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0). Mr. Rodgers called for an executive session regarding additional personnel items at 8:53 p.m. Executive session ended and Council resumed its meeting at 9:01 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve a base pay increase of \$2,500.00 and a incentive of \$500.00 beginning January 1, 2010 for Mr. Richard Wargo. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa in favor. Motion carried (7-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Kory for adjournment of the October 19, 2009 meeting at 9:03 P.M. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Claycomb
Borough Clerk